

HOD Meeting - 10/20/12

Introduction by Tom Manduca.

Roll Call: Fritz Homans CMA, Beth Pregovisk MMD, Matt Montgomery DEFY, Erin Connery DEFY, Andy Gilbert NYCY, Peter Christopher PPSC, Nicole Viele WCCU, Travis Libsak CBRY, Mardie Lariviere SYT, Sally Johnson PRY, John Smith SEAL, Taylor Rogers BYB, Lia Langeveld PTSC, Jay Morrissette LRSC, Bob Russell LRSC, Jim Willis MDIY, Tom Manduca TCST, Matt Arpin CMA, Jerry Gravel CMA, Evan Coleman CMA, Sydney Wight CMA

Reading, Correction & Adoption of the Minutes

Minutes went out from the last meeting - Nicole's last name will be adjusted. Debbie Clukey will be added to the minutes.

Motion to adopt the minutes by Jay. 2nd Jim. All in favor. Vote Passes.

Reports of Officers

We are low in numbers for officials so this will become a priority in the next few months. Tom would like to meet with the private clubs in the coming months.

Treasurer

Leanne sent an e-mail to Tom regarding Grand Prix meets - the cut times got easier so more people could attend. CMA will send 5 and PPSC will send 2 or 3.

Zone Chair - Judy - She will be the Zone chair for this upcoming year, but would like someone to train alongside her. \$55,268 for last year's trip. Athletes paid \$40,967 and MSI voted \$13,000 towards the trip as well as the \$1,461 entry fees. Static costs were approximately \$10,000 - hotel is booked for this year at the same place in Webster NY with 50 rooms March 28-30. The team leaves Westbrook on March 27th and returns on March 31st. Bus contract will need to be decided on by the end of the year and will require a small deposit. Tom will be taking recommendations for this position for the next month. Jim went last year and the hotel was close to the pool and food is set when the swimmers come back. It was brought up if it is worth it to keep sending our older swimmers. As long as we keep time standards and we have kids who want to go, it's worth it to keep sending kids. One athlete rep voiced that they liked the trip and liked attending the meet and recommended leaving it open if people wanted to go. Another athlete said she dropped time at the meet and it was a good meet option. Tom would like to recommend Matt Montgomery as Age Group Chair. Motion by Jim, 2nd by Bob. Vote - All in favor. Vote - Passes.

Coaches Rep - Mardie - At the coaches meeting this morning, the coaches recommended to Bob to have officials shadow at a Y meet to be able to qualify as a USA official. There are the

same rules for YMCA and USA meets - 4 shadowing sessions. Bob will research what can be done and why the shadowing is what it is. He will get back to the Board with pros and cons. Teams wanted to be able to get their officials transferred over more easily to help with numbers of officials in the state. Coaches also discussed the coaching clinic and that they appreciated MSI putting it on. Coaches recommended that 11-12s not have a 400 IM at Winter Champs. Cut times were voted in at the morning meeting. Coaches also discussed the progression of qualifying meets and becoming familiar with A/B standards. The December 29th will be an IMX style meet.

Safety Chair - No one at this moment

Report of Committees

Jay is the new National Times Chair.

Jim - Admin Vice Chair - Clubs should have gotten e-mail about anti-bullying policies as well as an electronic policy. Each club or YMCA can have their own policy. If they don't have a policy, it goes back to the USA policy. Budget - The budget was sent out with the previous year to compare. Motion to approve by Fritz. 2nd - Nicole. Discussion: Are the qualifier meets in the budget? There is a line item for swim meet expenses to cover the awards for those meets. Vote - All in favor. Vote - Passes.

Unfinished Business

Website Committee - At the HOD meeting in the spring, a committee was formed to look at this issue. The group met and recommended going to Team Unify. The website has been switched over to Jim and will launch on November 6th or November 20th. Many people can be put on as admins, the sites are user friendly and are similar to other LSCs and teams in the country. Team Unify is set up for sponsorships and MSI will try to get sponsors. MSI will not pay a hosting fee in the future. Should MSI be paying someone or hiring someone to do it? Tom recommended sending it back to the committee who worked on it in the past to make a recommendation. Most LSCs are moving towards Team Unify. A question was brought up about times transporting through Team Unify - athletes should be able to be merged. If there are suggestions, send to Tom or Jim.

New Business

Proposed Policy & Procedure Changes

Article M30: add a second sentence - The website contract/arrangement shall be reviewed and voted on annually. Motion to accept by Jim. 2nd Jay. Discussion: This is the way most things are done with business arrangements. The current webmaster will be paid for 2 months of work this year. Vote - All in favor. Vote - Passes.

By-Laws change: The election of the Athlete Representatives shall be conducted annually during MSI's (winter short courses swimming championships or other regularly scheduled meet designated by the Board of Directors.) Motion by Matt to accept. 2nd - Fritz. Discussion: There are more swimmers at Winter Champs and with only 13 and overs being able to vote, MSI is trying to get more athletes involved. Athlete reps thought it was a good suggestion and that more people go to Winter Champs. Vote - All in favor with 1 abstention. Vote - Passes.

MSI Meets/Schedule/Cut Times

The MSI Qualifying meets are new to the schedule this year - Nov 3 & 4, Dec 29, Jan?, March 7-10. These are to encourage kids to qualify for Maine Champs. There will be various awards given out at these meets - see coaches notes. MSI is encouraging participation and trying to get swimmers used to the new format. Three new teams will be hosting meets this year and it's great for swimmers to have a chance to swim in different pools. Motivational times change every 4 years and the times were reviewed according to the National times. The coaches voted these times in at the morning meeting. In the future, will cut times be strictly based on motivational times? Yes, that is the goal in the future. Currently, everything on the times list is at least a B time.

Zone Chair replacement/New Officials – Bob Russell

John and Bob met last week and Bob is having trouble with the mail system on the website. There was a stroke and turn clinic in Westbrook and there are 3 new officials and 1 more starter. The training went well and officials got a chance to practice on an intra-squad meet. Bob will put an e-mail out as his primary contact. There is an officials workshop Oct 26-28 in Savannah GA for LSC Officials Chairs or someone who is appointed to go. It is in the budget. There are 30 current officials and many of them have older swimmers so next year will be critical for officials. Bob suggested official recognition, possibly at Winter Champs. Teams will be reimbursed for officials who work 2 sessions at Winter Champs. USA Swimming is willing to send up a National observer to watch our meet refs, starters, etc and recommend National level training. Bob recommended looking into newer headsets for the officials and he will look into this. Summer Champs are scheduled for July 25-27 in St. John.

Anything Else?

Jay met with the Hall of Fame committee and were asking about the upcoming banquet. MSI had discussed moving the banquet to fall of 2013. The committee was not in favor of this change. What would the format look like for a banquet in the spring? Athlete reps indicated they didn't go because it is usually far away and no one attends. Part of the problem is that coaches do not attend or sell the banquet to their kids as an important event. The question was brought up as to what the incentive is to go to the banquet. Some reasons were brought up to have the kids see their friends, receive awards. The timing of the banquet is hard because exams are going on. Fall would be hard because graduating seniors are gone. How soon can it be done after Maine Champs? If it's sooner after Maine Champs, more people might want to attend. Would there be better attendance if it's tied in with a swimming/coaching clinic instead of the Hall of Fame? It was motivational to watch the older kids get the awards

at the banquet. Timing is hard because it's the month that most kids get off. Timing conflicts both in the spring and fall with playing different sports. At a team banquet, one of Nike's motivational speakers attended and the turnout for that banquet was good. Could the banquet be held after Winter Champs and before Zones? Could it be tied in with the Zone informational meet? One of the things that was brought up was increasing numbers in the summer. If we did the clinic in April, would this help increase numbers for summer? The speaker needs to be a big name person to help increase attendance. Tom recommended tabling and making a decision by Bowdoin Open. Motion by Jim to spring of 2013. 2nd - Jay. Vote - All in favor. Vote - Passes.

Motion by Jay that the winter Champs 11-12 400 IM be eliminated. 2nd - John. Discussion: It was a recommendation of the coaches to delete it. This is not a Zones event for 11-12s. Athlete recommendation to leave it in. To develop our swimmers, it would be good to offer it in the winter. The event has been in there for several years and numbers and racing has not developed. Does this count towards the 11-12 high point if they placed in an open event? Yes. Currently, there were increased numbers in the age group, but a decrease in entries in both boys and girls. Vote - All in favor 4, all opposed 7. Vote - Fails.

Motion by Jay to eliminate the 800 Free Relay at Summer Champs. 2nd - John. Discussion: Coaches recommended getting rid of it. It is hard to motivate kids to swim that relay. Athlete reps recommended keeping it. A lot of teams put it in for points and younger kids were swimming it. Motion - All in favor with 5 opposed. Vote - Passes.

Summer Champs relays are open and very young swimmers are being put in these relays. Open age groups allow anyone to swim.

Date of Next Meeting: May 18th in Waterville. Committee will meet to discuss the banquet date and the meeting will possibly change. This will be done before the 1st of the year.

Athlete Reps - What is reimbursement for Sectionals? Up to \$400. Why is so much spent on Zones? More kids go to Zones and MSI needs to pay for coaches and managers to go. When the cost is divided out, it's cheaper to go to Zones. Winter Champs t-shirts have been the same for the past few years. Last year, a different vendor came in and did shirts for Winter Champs and they had different designs and MSI made \$2700 last year versus \$1400-\$1500 in past years. A t-shirt contest design was suggested. T-shirts should be different each year. Apparel is put out to bid to everyone.

Motion to adjourn by Andy. 2nd - Matt. Meeting adjourned at 11:43am.